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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/625,927	07/24/2003	Andrea Caldini	013436.279 (Caldini 1-1)	9482

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PATTON BOGGS
1660 LINCOLN ST
SUITE 2050
DENVER, CO 80264

EXAMINER

STEIN, JULIE E

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2617

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	01/09/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/625,927

Applicant(s)

CALDINI ET AL.

Examiner

Julie E. Stein, Esq.

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 19 October 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 24 July 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Objections

1. In view of the claim amendments, the claim objections are withdrawn.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 7,093,020 to McCarty et al. in view of Pitcher.

McCarty teaches all the elements of independent claim 1, including a unified messaging system (column 1, lines 20 to 30 and column 3, lines 24 to 29) that serves to interconnect a subscriber with a plurality of independently operable messaging services (Id.) to which they subscribe (Id.), each of said messaging services having a separate login and password for said subscriber (column 3, lines 30 to 35), said unified message system comprising:

sign-on service means (column 14, lines 44 to 48), accessible to a subscriber via a communication medium (Figure 3), for providing said subscriber with a single point of access (Id.) for a plurality of independently operable messaging services (Figure 4 and column 9 to 14) that are accessible to said sign-on service means (Id.) via said communication medium (Id.), comprising:

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service-wide directory means for storing said separate login and password data for said subscriber for each of said messaging services (column 11, lines 1 to 31),

user interface means for providing said subscriber with a single user interface to access all of said messaging services (column 14, lines 44 to 47), and

user login means for providing said subscriber with a single login to access said single user interface (Id.); and

unified service access means (Figure 4 and its corresponding description), responsive to said subscriber selecting at least one of said messaging services (Figure 4), for using said subscriber login and password data to automatically log in to each of said messaging services selected by said subscriber via said user interface to access messages stored therein (Id.) and share calendaring applications (column 13, line 54) among said selected messaging services via said communication medium (Figure 4 and its corresponding description).

But, McCarty does not explicitly teach the sharing of a personal address book, however McCarty does teach the use of a personal calendar, news, email, chats, and message boards, which do involve addresses. In addition, Pitcher teaches that the concept of shared address books integrated with messaging components across distributed systems is well known. See column 10, lines 58 to 62. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to understand that a personal address book would also be shared among the selected messaging services via the communication medium because this would allow the user to keep the personal address book up to date.

The rejection of independent claim 1 is hereby incorporated as is the reasoning.

McCarty in view of Pitcher teaches all the steps of independent claim 7, including a method of providing a unified messaging service (see above) that serves to interconnect a subscriber with a plurality of independently operable messaging services (see above) to which they subscribe (see above), each of said messaging services having a separate login and password for said subscriber (see above), said unified messaging system comprising:

providing said subscriber with a single point of access (see above), via a sign-on service interface (see above), accessible to a subscriber via a communication medium (see above) for a plurality of independently operable messaging services (see above) that are accessible to said sign-on service means (see above) via said communication medium (see above), comprising;

storing said separate login and password data for said subscriber for each of said messaging services (see above),

providing said subscriber with a single user interface to access all of said messaging services (see above), and

providing said subscriber with a single login to access said single user interface (see above); and

using, in response to said subscriber selecting at least one of said messaging services (see above), said subscriber login and password data to automatically log in to each of said messaging services selected by said subscriber via said user interface to access messages stored therein (see above) and share personal address book and

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calendaring applications (see above) among said selected messaging services via said communication medium.

McCarty in view of Pitcher teaches all the elements/steps of dependent claims 2 and 8, including means responsive to said subscriber signing on to the sign-on service means, for accessing subscriber's account profile information located in said sing-on service means in a centralized profile for messaging services. See McCarty, column 11, lines 15 to 31.

The rejections of claims 2 and 8 are hereby incorporated and the same reasoning applies. McCarty in view of Pitcher teaches all the elements/steps of dependent claims 3 and 9, including means for allowing the subscriber to access one of said plurality of independently operable messaging services that are enabled in their account profile. See McCarty, Figure 4.

McCarty in view of Pitcher also teaches all the elements/steps of dependent claims 4 and 10, including wherein said directory means contains subscriber profile data including at least one of: mobile telephone number, spoken name, e-mail address, services access, and links to the personal address book and calendar servers. See McCarty, column 11, lines 15 to 31.

McCarty in view of Pitcher teaches all the elements/steps of dependent claims 5 and 11, including means for enabling said subscriber to move seamlessly among the allowed messaging services to share personal address book and calendaring applications. See McCarty, Figure 4 and above.

McCarty in view of Pitcher also teaches all the elements/steps of dependent claims 6 and 12, including means to enable said subscriber to access said sign-on service means via a one of a Telephone User Interface and a WEB User Interface using a laptop or personal computer. See McCarty, Figure 4.

Response to Arguments

4. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1 to 12 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. U.S. Patent No. 6,691,151 to Cheyer et al. teaches a unified messaging system; U.S. Patent Application Publication 2004/0030705 to Bowman-Amuah teaches a service control architecture, including a unified communications hub in paragraph 51; and U.S. Patent No. 6,629,246 to Gadi, U.S. Patent Application Publications 2004/0230831 to Spelmann et al. and 2002/0184507 to Makower et al. teach single-sign-on methods.

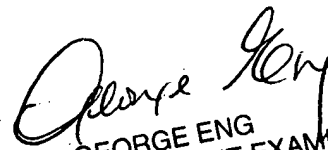
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Julie E. Stein, Esq. whose telephone number is (571) 272-7897. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (8:30 am-5:00 pm).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, George Eng can be reached on (571) 272-7495. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

JES



GEORGE ENG
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER